

Dear Members of the Connecticut General Assembly Human Services Committee:

I'm Rubén Vallejo. I live in the city of Wallingford, Connecticut, and I fully support H.B. 6616. It's very important to me to provide health care, and health insurance, to undocumented people. They are already in this country and are part of this country. It is very true that they are undocumented but I think they have a right by the fact that they live here. They need to be attended by a doctor and should have access to free medicines.

At one point, I needed to pick up my medication but did not have a job and therefore could not obtain my medications. I had to go without my medicine for a long time until HAVEN Free Clinic members called me. I had to tell them that I didn't have money to buy the medicines because the price was too high, and since I didn't have insurance there was no one to cover the medicine. That is another reason why health insurance is very important and necessary for everyone living in this country, whether they are children or the elderly – especially those over 50 years of age. When they reach that age, even if they are not documented, they have already fought in this country. They served a grain of sand and also contributed to this country.

To the legislators who are in this country, I think it would be an honor and a sincere thank you to pass the law for health insurance for the elderly and for children. I don't want what happened to one of my relatives to happen again. He took his child to the doctor but he could not provide medical care to the child because he was not documented. The first thing they ask is what your Social Security number? But they didn't have one because they were undocumented. Through time a child can change the world. The child is very important.

I support this law and ask the committee to support and pass this legislation.

Thanks for your time,

Rubén Vallejo